United Nations A/CONF.192/9

General Assembly

Distr.: General
11 July 2001

Original: English

United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects
9-20 July 2001

Letter dated 11 July 2001 from the Permanent Observer of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

I have the honour to transmit the texts of resolutions 47/9-P(IS), adopted on 13 November 2000 at the Ninth Islamic Conference, held in Doha, Qatar, and 47/28-P, adopted on 27 June 2001 at the twenty-eighth session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Bamako, Mali, on 27 June 2001, on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (see annex).

I would be grateful if the above-mentioned resolutions were to be added to the annex to the draft programme of action contained in document A/CONF.192/PC/L.4/Rev.1.

(*Signed*) Mokhtar **Lamani**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer

01-45226 (E) 120701

Annex to the letter dated 11 July 2001 from the Permanent Observer of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Resolution 47/9-P(IS)
Combating the illegal proliferation, build-up and circulation of light weapons

The Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, Session of Peace and Development "Al Aqsa Intifada", held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 16-17 Shabaan 1421H (12-13 November, 2000),

Taking note of the decision of the 35th Session of The Conference of Heads of State and government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Algiers in July 1999, to convene a Ministers' conference on the illegal trade in, and proliferation of light weapons;

Recalling the objectives and principles set forth in the Charters of the UN and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly the provisions relating to the consolidation of international peace and security;

Recalling further the relevant resolutions on disarmament adopted by the United Nations General Assembly as well as by the various Islamic Conference, in particular Resolution 21/8-P(IS) adopted by the Eighth Islamic Summit and Resolution 22/25-P adopted by the 25th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking note of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution NO. 53/7E of 4 December 1998 on the convening of a conference on the illegal trade in light weapons in 2001;

Reaffirming the need to preserve international peace and security in general and within the Member States of the Islamic Ummah in particular;

Considering that the manufacturing, illegal circulation and build-up of massive quantities of light weapons in the world constitute a threat to national, regional and international peace and security as well as an obstacle to the economic development of the countries and regions concerned;

Convinced of the need for a global approach with a view to encouraging at national, regional and world levels, the limitation and reduction of illegal light weapons in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner;

Deeply concerned about the spread of insecurity, banditry, and terrorism linked to the illegal movement of light weapons;

Taking note of the Secretary General's Report NO. IS/9-2000/PIL/D.17;

1. Notes with satisfaction the initiative taken by the Government of the Republic of Mali on the question, and specifically by the Organization of the ceremony of the "Torch of peace" in Timbuktu on 27 March 1996 and consisting in

the destruction of thousands of light arms of small caliber and by the mobilization of the international community for a resolute and coordinated combat against the illicit traffic kind of this type of armament.

2. **Welcomes** the holding of the African Regional Conference on the illegal trade in, and proliferation of light weapons which will be organized by the OAU in November 2000 in Bamako, Republic of Mali. This Conference will work out a global African approach within the framework of the preparation of the United Nations international Conference of the year 2001.

3. **Notes with interest** the Moratorium declaration on the import, export and manufacturing of light arms in West Africa adopted in Abuja on 31 October 1998 by the 21st Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of the West African States (ECOWAS) and calls on Member States of the Islamic Ummah to approve the Moratorium and support its effective implementation.

4. **Notes with satisfaction** the decision taken by some countries of Sahel to set up national commissions to combat the proliferation of light arms in the Sahelo-Saharian region and of the UN Standing Consultative Committee on security in Central Africa and calls on Member States of the Islamic Ummah and other Islamic Organisation to set up their own national commissions.

5. **Calls on** African States in particular and the Member States of the Islamic Ummah in general to initiate and strengthen their cooperation at sub-regional, regional and international levels with a view to eradication the illicit traffic and proliferation of light arms.

6. **Notes** the initiative taken by the European Union to set up a world wide mechanism to combat and control the illicit accumulation and circulation of light arms and calls on the Secretary General to examine ways and means to ensure an effective cooperation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the United Nations, the European Union, the ECOWAS and the other sub-regional organizations concerned with question.

7. **Calls on** Member States to participate actively in the Conference on Combating the Illegal Trade of light arms, which will be held in the year 2001, and requests the Secretary General to cooperate fully with Member States in order to prepare for this Conference.

8. **Requests** the Secretary General to further examine the question and to submit a report to the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference.

Resolution 47/28-P
Combating the illegal proliferation, build-up and circulation of light weapons

The Twenty-eighth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Development - Intifada Al-Aqsa), held in Bamako, Republic of Mali, from 4 to 6 Rabi-ul-Thani, 1422H (25-27 June, 2001),

Taking note of the decision of the 35th Session of The Conference of Heads of State and government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Algiers in July 1999, to convene a Ministers' conference on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

Recalling the objectives and principles set forth in the Charters of the UN and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly the provisions relating to the consolidation of international peace and security;

Recalling further the relevant resolutions on disarmament adopted by the United Nations General Assembly as well as by the various Islamic Conference, in particular Resolution 21/8-P(IS) adopted by the Eighth Islamic Summit and Resolution 22/25-P adopted by the 25th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking note of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution NO. 53/7E of 4 December 1998 on the convening of a conference on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

Reaffirming the need to preserve international peace and security in general and within the Member States of the Islamic Ummah in particular;

Considering that the manufacturing, illegal circulation and build-up of massive quantities of light weapons in the world constitute a threat to national, regional and international peace and security as well as an obstacle to the economic development of the countries and regions concerned;

Convinced of the need for a global approach with a view to encouraging at national, regional and world levels, the limitation, illegal production and trade in small arms and light weapons in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner;

Deeply concerned about the spread of insecurity, banditry, and terrorism linked to the illegal movement of light weapons;

Convinced also of the need to define small arms and light weapons keeping in view the possibility of their use in future conflicts;

Taking note of the Secretary General's Report NO. ICFM/28-2001/PIL/D.34;

1. **Notes with satisfaction** the initiative taken by the Government of the Republic of Mali on the question, and specifically by the Organization of the ceremony of the "Torch of peace" in Timbuktu on 27 March 1996 and consisting in the destruction of thousands of light arms of small caliber and by the mobilization of the international community for a resolute and coordinated combat against the illicit traffic kind of this type of armament.

2. **Welcomes** the holding of the African Regional Conference on the illegal trade in, and proliferation of light weapons which was organized by the OAU in November 2000 in Bamako, Republic of Mali. This Conference had elaborated a global African approach within the framework of the preparation of the United Nations international Conference of the year 2001 in New York

3. **Notes with interest** the Moratorium declaration on the import, export and manufacturing of light arms in West Africa adopted in Abuja on 31 October 1998 by the 21st Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of the West African States (ECOWAS) and calls on Member States of the Islamic Ummah to approve the Moratorium and support its effective implementation.

4. **Notes with satisfaction** the decision taken by some countries of Sahel to set up national commissions to combat the proliferation of light arms in the Sahelo-Saharian region and of the UN Standing Consultative Committee on security in Central Africa and calls on Member States of the Islamic Ummah and other Islamic Organisation to set up their own national commissions.

5. **Calls on** African States in particular and the Member States of the Islamic Ummah in general to initiate and strengthen their cooperation at sub-regional, regional and international levels with a view to eradication the illicit traffic and proliferation of light arms.

6. **Notes** the initiative taken by the European Union to set up a world wide mechanism to combat and control the illicit accumulation and circulation of light arms and calls on the Secretary General to examine ways and means to ensure an effective cooperation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the United Nations, the European Union, the ECOWAS and the other sub-regional organizations concerned with question.

7. **Calls on** Member States to participate actively in the UN Conference on the Combating the Illicit Trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, which will be held in July 2001 in New York, and requests the Secretary General to cooperate fully with Member States in order to prepare for this Conference.

8. **Requests** the Secretary General to further examine the question and to submit a report to the Twenty-ninth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.